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Rex Murphy: Prime Minister Pierre Poilievre is something to look forward to

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Body

Well, Pierre Poilievre won the Conservative leadership. What now?

I don't know.

It might be nice, for a change, for someone who has a vague idea of ordinary life to run the country for a while.

Who doesn't dance or prance, but came from a hard beginning, applied himself to the art and practices of democratic representation, didn't opt for a dilettante career and then simply waltz into high office on name and fame?

Worth a try, anyway.

He is supposed to be so angry. According to some unfathomably ridiculous columnists, a threat to the nature of the country, the "most dangerous, appalling politician"(https://www.thestar.com/opinion/star-columnists/2022/06/29/pierre-poilievre-is-canadas-most-dangerous-appalling-politician.html) we have ever seen. He sidles up to "extremists," and courts the hellishly dangerous "far right." He liked ... the truckers!

Dear me, who have the Conservatives turned their leadership over to? Fear stalks the land.

They are, even as I torment the laptop keyboard, putting up pylons around the Toronto Star building, and the CBC headquarters on Front St. is draped from the 10th storey down in black crepe. Grief counsellors by the dozens have been called in, and the editorial offices are gloomily consulting on whether it's safe to have another panel on one of their infinite yammerings about imminent ***climate doom*** should Poilievre (eek) become prime minister and de-subsidize the windmill factories.

Pierre Poilievre a threat to democracy? A dark presence about to descend on a tranquil, gloriously (mis)governed Canada? King of yobs and louts? Ooh, how dangerous!

Actually his promise is far more positive.

He could bring an end to our interminably woke-nattering government of virtue-signallers and identity-mongers. No more tweets from Catherine McKenna, or Steven - I will climb every tower - Guilbeault. Oh, how will we deal with such losses?

We could exchange empty homilies and endless moaning about the "future of the planet" for a government led by someone who thinks that governing Canada is his real and first task. That ridiculous carbon taxes during a time of

high inflation is a misery without benefit, that unlocking Alberta and the West's resources might stabilize an economy under peril from massive debt and careless spending in the billions.

Poilievre's liberal critics are all red-faced with the idea he cozies up to dangerous extremists, that he is a Canadian avatar of Donald Trump-style politics. What is in their cereal? Do they think A Handmaid's Tale is a blueprint? They confuse a childish paranoid fiction with a serious reality.

These fantasies do not explain his massive win, nor the unprecedented crowds that gathered for him coast to coast during the campaign.

A whole lot of Canadians, and not just Conservatives, have grown exceedingly irritated, beyond mere annoyance, at the perpetual, smug self-righteousness and cloying preachiness of the ultra-woke "we always know best" Liberal leadership.

Poilievre at the very least does not carry that burden. Should he become prime minister, it will be good to get back to not always being lectured to and frowned down upon by a self-assuming superior caste. Be nice to have a government again that does not see the whole country as "systemically racist" when in fact Canada has proven to be both a haven and welcoming place for people from all over the world.

Poilievre won the Conservative leadership with such a vast majority because he is sensible, has some clue about life for most Canadians, because he is not a woke preacher disguised as a Prime Minister, and because he defied the opinions of much of the media.

He also won because he is not what his critics, in their fever-dreams, wished to paint him. He is not a "populist" in the derogatory sense, but a populist in the sense that he has at least a clue of what ordinary people think, feel and live.

That should not be a discount for a politician. It should be the first premise in any evaluation of whether to vote for him.

Ben Woodfinden: With Poilievre as leader, Conservatives ready to beat Trudeau Liberals(*https://nationalpost.com/opinion/ben-woodfinden-with-poilievre-as-leader-conservative-ready-to-beat-trudeau-liberals*)

Sabrina Maddeaux: Conservatives are all Poilievers now, can they persuade the Poili-curious?(*https://nationalpost.com/opinion/sabrina-maddeaux-conservatives-are-all-poilievers-now-can-they-persuade-the-poili-curious*)

As for the current Liberal batch, with their incomprehensible incompetence, their deliberate choice to use a pandemic as a political lever, for calling an election in the middle of one, to describing those who challenged their undebated vaccine mandates as "racists" and "misogynists" and a "fringe minority," it has all become so tiresome, even boring.

Poilievre is serious. He does not want vainglorious socks. And thank the cosmos he will not tell the country just how deplorable and awful its history has been. We may have a moratorium on apologies for one of the most tolerant, wishing-to-be-always-fair country this troubled globe can offer.

It would be nice to be regularly proud of Canada again. That alone might be motivation enough for a change in government. And have an election on just such a theme.

That is, if and whenever Jagmeet Singh, if he can find the time off from TikTok and style magazine photo-shoots, to unlock the disgraceful bargain that shields this tired, shallow government from every vote of non-confidence, and offer Canadians a chance to choose.

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